## ABSTRACT

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## A METHOD FOR CONTROLLING THE ORDER OF DATAGRAMS

A method for controlling the order of datagrams, the datagrams being processed by at least one processing engine 110a, 110b, 110c, the at least one processing engine having at least one input port and at least one output port, wherein each datagram or group of datagrams has a ticket associated therewith, the ticket being used to control the order of the datagram or group of datagrams at the at least one input port of the processing engine 110a, 110b, 110c and at the at least one output port of the processing engine 110a, 110b, 110c.